

MEMORANDUM

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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INFORMATION

January 18, 1974

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: A. Denis Clift
SUBJECT: Swedish Leftists Revive Vietnam Issue

25X1

[redacted] Riksdagswoman Birgitta Dahl, a leftwing Social Democraft who recently returned from a visit to Southeast Asia, has called for an intensive week-long anti-US campaign beginning January 21. Dahl chairs the Swedish Vietnam Committee and hopes to mobilize public opinion, Swedish political leaders, the trade unions, and "responsible" politicians in other countries, including the US.

The Dahl delegation, which included other Socialist and Communist members of parliament, visited North Vietnam, Laos, and PRG-controlled areas of South Vietnam. Dahl talked with Madame Binh in Cam Lo, and other members of the delegation visited Souphanouvong in Laos. Concluding that Washington and Saigon had violated the Paris peace agreement, she called for the week-long campaign to coincide with the first anniversary of the accord. Swedish leftwingers are hungry for an issue, and they could seek to enroll several hundred Chilean refugees now resident in Sweden and other Scandinavian countries. Although the government probably will seek to distance itself from anti-US demonstrations, media coverage in any event may be extensive.

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[redacted] the Palme government probably has little stomach for a resurgence of anti-US sentiment at this time. The Swedes sense that Washington is about ready to agree to exchanging ambassadors after a hiatus of more than a year. Palme has been blamed for the poor state of Swedish-US relations, and there is reason to believe that it may have cost the Social Democrats some votes in the September elections. While I generally concur [redacted], it should be noted 25X1 that Palme has been unable to resist the temptation of siding with the left on this issue in the past. If the anti-US campaign occurs as forecast it will be a useful test of the Swedish government's resolve to improve relations with the United States.

MORI/CDF per C03234561

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